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**PATENT APPLICATION**  
**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

1046 U.S. PTO  
09/822025  
03/30/01

In re application of

TAKASHI YUZAWA, et al.

PCT Continuation Application of  
Appln. No. PCT/JP98/05106

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Confirmation No.: Not yet assigned

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Filed: March 30, 2001

For: SURFACE TREATMENT METHOD USING ELECTRIC DISCHARGE, AND AN  
ELECTRODE FOR THE SURFACE TREATMENT METHOD

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicant's duty of voluntary disclosure under Rule 56, and for the Examiner's convenience, we submit herewith:

- a) a form PTO-1449 listing thirteen (13) references of potential relevancy; and,
- b) a complete copy of each reference.

No certification or fee is required.

Regarding the concise explanation of relevancy requirement for foreign language documents, an English-language summary is attached for each foreign language document not already cited in the ISR.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not

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PCT Continuation of Appln. No. PCT/JP98/05106

waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard C. Turner', written over a horizontal line.

Richard C. Turner  
Registration No. 29,710

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Date: March 30, 2001